

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ducks Unlimited on its 80th anniversary. Over the past eight decades, Ducks Unlimited has partnered with local communities and Members of Congress to support conservation of millions of acres of waterfowl habitats across North America.

As a lifelong outdoorsman, I know the value of these habitats and the benefits that they provide to countless Americans who enjoy these areas for a wide array of recreational and scientific activities.

We must ensure the preservation of these habitats for future generations, and I know that Ducks Unlimited will work to ensure this goal for another 80 years.

I would like to extend my thanks and congratulations to DU and wish them continued success for many generations to come.

HONORING MARK HAWKINS

(Mr. TAKANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate Mark Hawkins, who will retire tomorrow after 29 years as chief executive officer of Altura Credit Union in Riverside, California.

After nearly three decades, Mark's greatest contribution is likely not to the credit union, which grew significantly under his leadership, but to the members of our community who have benefited so much from his commitment to supporting the Inland Empire.

Whether it is academia, athletics, the arts, or charitable organizations, Mark has been a fixture in promoting the institutions that define and enrich our community. His work with organizations, including the United Way, the Kiwanis Club, and the University of California-Riverside, has strengthened our community and expanded opportunities to thousands of Inland Empire residents. I know he will continue that work for many years to come.

Once again, I congratulate Mark on his well-earned retirement, and I thank him for his continued service to our community.

CONGRATULATING QUINCY NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL

(Mr. LAHOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Quincy Notre Dame High School on 150 years of academic excellence and service to the community of Quincy, Illinois.

Quincy Notre Dame Catholic High School originally opened as a school serving young women. Mother Caroline and the school sisters of Notre Dame answered the call to meet the growing

need for primary studies in 1859. The school opened its doors in 1867 and quickly exploded in growth.

Throughout the past 150 years, Quincy Notre Dame has always sought to serve the needs of the Quincy community and adapt to the changing times.

QND remains steadfast in its mission to educate lifelong learners in a strong faith-based environment. I am certain that Mother Caroline and her Sisters would be humbled to know their simple act of faith and service resulted in a legacy that has impacted thousands of lives for 150 years.

To each educator, administrator, and individual who has helped build Quincy Notre Dame into the stellar institution it is today, congratulations. I wish you another successful 150 years.

GENERAL FLYNN, PRESIDENT TRUMP, AND RUSSIA

(Mr. KIHUEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KIHUEN. Mr. Speaker, the question that I have heard many times from my constituents deserves to be answered: With respect to General Flynn and Trump campaign aides, what did President Trump know, and when did he know it?

How high does this go up?

Now he is calling this fake news.

Mr. President, this is not fake news. This is real.

The American people deserve a transparent, independent investigation into Russia's involvement with the White House and President Trump.

President Trump continually says he wants to protect our national security, but he ignores the real security threats within his administration.

Even my colleagues across the aisle would rather focus on taking away health care from millions of Americans and thousands of Nevadans instead of investigating the clear and present danger in the Trump administration.

Enough is enough. Protecting our national security is not a Democratic issue or a Republican issue. It is an American priority.

GENERAL FLYNN, PRESIDENT TRUMP, AND RUSSIA

(Miss RICE of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Miss RICE of New York. Mr. Speaker, Michael Flynn's resignation and reports of constant contact between Russia and the Trump campaign raise serious questions, and the American people deserve answers.

President Trump was informed weeks ago that Flynn lied about his discussions with the Russian Ambassador and might be vulnerable to blackmail.

Why did the President take no action until that lie became public?

President Trump has reportedly been briefed about contact between his campaign and Russian intelligence officers.

Why does he continue to insist that there was absolutely no communication with Russia?

These questions cannot go unanswered. We need to put politics aside, do what is right for our democracy, and create an independent commission to fully investigate Russia's influence on the Trump administration and the Presidential election.

GENERAL FLYNN'S RUSSIAN CONNECTION

(Ms. BARRAGÁN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to echo concerns by my colleagues. I am concerned, but not surprised, about the growing revelations from the intelligence community of the Trump campaign's contact with Russian officials. Russia's involvement in our elections undermines American democracy.

General Flynn's resignation is no substitute for answers to grave concerns and questions over President Trump's involvement in secret communications with the Russians and Vladimir Putin's hand in our elections.

I believe that this is just the tip of the iceberg. This is not just about leakers, but this is about the Trump-Russia ties. We need a full, bipartisan investigation. It is our duty.

TRUMP'S MUSLIM BAN AND TOWN HALL IN THE DISTRICT

(Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I hosted a community listening session where my fellow citizens and I listened to the personal experiences of Muslims, refugees, and other immigrants in the aftermath of the President's Muslim/immigrant ban and ICE dragnet crackdown on Latinos.

It was a safe place for Muslims, refugees, and immigrants to come and share their experiences, values, and love for this country, and it provided an opportunity for us to embrace our fellow citizens in love. We insist that these valuable members of our community and their children be able to live without fear, and to thrive.

Unlike the Muslim/immigrant ban, the people of Georgia's Fourth Congressional District welcomed those of all backgrounds and religions and those fleeing persecution and facing war and bloodshed.

Trump's immigration executive order is contrary to our values and dangerous to our security. Americans who respect the Constitution must oppose these kinds of acts, the injustice they represent, and the suffering that they impose upon the innocent.